

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS**

2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300, Sacramento, California, 95833-2944

Telephone: (916) 263-2222 – Toll Free: 1-866-780-5370

Facsimile: (916) 263-2246

www.bpelsg.dca.ca.gov

**Meeting Minutes
Geologist and Geophysicists Technical Advisory Committee
July 31, 2012**

The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive
Third Floor Conference Room
Sacramento, CA 95833

I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum and Public Forum

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:05 a.m. and a quorum was established.

New TAC Members Gary Simpson and William Cole introduced.

Technical Advisory Members Present: William Owen, PGp, PG, CEG; Hugh S. Robertson, PG, CEG; William Cole. PG, CEG, CHG; Gary Simpson PG, CEG.

Board Member Present: Erik Zinn, PG, CEG

Board Staff Present: Linda Brown (Administrative Manager) Brook Phayer (Information and Outreach Analyst), Gary Duke (Legal Counsel), Mike Donelson (Staff Engineer), Larry Kereszt (Enforcement Analyst), Corrine Gray (Enforcement Analyst), Patty Smith (Program Lead Analyst), Erin LaPerle (Staff Liaison) Lisa Chavez (Staff Liaison) Shane Cummings, PG, CEG, CHG (Expert Consultant).

II. Election of new committee Chair and Vice Chair- William Cole nominated William Owen for Chairman; nomination seconded by Hugh Robertson- **Nomination approved 4-0**

William Owen nominated Hugh Robertson as Vice Chairman; nomination seconded by Gary Simpson-**Nomination approved 4-0**

William Owen PGp, PG, CEG - Chairman

Hugh Robertson, PG, CEG – Vice Chairman

III. Approval of minutes from the May 1, 2012 Geologist and Geophysicists Technical Advisory Committee (G & G TAC) Meeting with correction to TAC Members Present.

Motion to Adopt - Section IV, Change set to sit, per Hugh Robertson; seconded by William Owen

Correction approved 4-0

Minutes approved.

IV. Public Comment. None at this time.

V. Use information from discussion of core courses to develop online survey outline for University Geology Departments regarding curriculum.

No Survey – Core courses list will be used as an outreach tool and added to Expert Consultant procedures

VI. SMGB Notes- (1) Change all references to old Board for Geologists and Geophysicists Board name. (2) Change any reference to “Registered” Geologist and Geophysicists license type to “Professional” (3) Resurrect note “44” pertaining to geophysical reports.

Motion – Hugh Robertson seconded by Gary Simpson. **Motion Approved 4-0**

VII. Update from Board meeting of Amendments to California Code of Regulations, title 16, 3003(e) to include seismology and earthquake hazard/ seismic ground movement in the definition of Geophysics and Section 3003(b) definition of Engineering Geology.

To be presented at next Board meeting Scheduled for August 29th and 30th 2012.

VIII. Discuss change to regulation for Geologist degree to require a minimum of 30 geologic science courses with 24 being in upper division courses.

Recommendation for language change;

7841. Qualifications for registration as a Geologist:

An applicant for registration as a geologist shall have all of the following qualifications:

- (a) Not have committed any acts or crimes constituting grounds for denial of licensure under Section 480.
- (b) Graduation with a major in geological sciences from a college or university, *which includes at least 30 semester units in courses, which in the opinion of the Board are relevant to geology; of which 24 units must be upper division classes or graduate courses.*

Motion- Hugh Robertson seconded by William Cole

Motion approved 4-0

IX. DCA Enforcement Chart presentation by Larry Kereszt and Gary Duke

Presentation given by Gary Duke and pamphlet of Enforcement Process Overview, prepared by the Division of Legal Affairs given to TAC Members

X. Draft New Work Plan

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recognizes its position as an advisory committee to the Board, providing input to the liaison Board members on matters requested by the Board of Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. The input may take the form of assistance to Board staff, direct assistance to the two liaison Board members, or recommendations made directly to the Board in the form of proposed motions or recommendations. In all cases, the focus of the activities of the TAC will be in the interest of safeguarding property and public welfare.

YEAR PLAN - 2012/2013

1. To help clarify “gray” areas in the existing laws, rules, and regulations regarding the practices of Geology and Geophysics, and make recommendations for handling and/or revising the laws, rules, and regulations, where appropriate.
2. To review proposed legislation that would affect the practice of geology or geophysics.
3. To assist the Board with information regarding the practices of geology and geophysics proposed to be included in information prepared and disseminated by the Board.
4. To review enforcement issues that significantly impacts the consumers of California and the professions of geology and geophysics.
5. To assist staff in advising, guidance, and identification of expert consultants.
6. To review minimum qualifications for Geologists and Geophysicists applying for examinations.
7. Review licensing issues affecting other states to determine if the same issues may be relevant to California.
8. Issue geologist and geophysicist pamphlet for County Building Officials to supplement the current Board Brochure. (Revision date 7/31/12)
9. Assist outreach analyst with subjects of interest for licensees.

Motion to approve 2012/2013 work plan – Hugh Robertson, seconded by Gary Simpson
Work Plan Approved 4-0

XI. Background on Geophysical Subservice Utility Locating and unlicensed practice. Possible Board recommendation?

Sub Surface Utility Engineers.

There is a fairly recent application of engineering practice proposed by the Federal Highway Administration in response to cost over runs and project change orders and increased cost for construction due to undetected or unknown utilities.

The Society for Civil Engineers is currently working to come up with a definitive scope of practice for Utility Engineering for all info-structure construction in order to map utilities to accommodate utility relocation or redesign in advance of actual construction to eliminate the prospect of project change orders and change claims conditions, and cost over runs related to that, as well as the protection of Public Health and Safety. It is divided into a number of levels of practice ranging from examination of existing utility maps all the way up to physical excavation of the suspect utility.

GEO TAC – The practice under Sub-Surface Utility Engineering that would apply to our recommendations would be **LEVEL B** - utility designating use of geophysical techniques to locate sub-service utilities non-destructively. It would be worthwhile to look at this issue and try to specify at

what level does a Sub-Surface Utility detection service cross the line from a standard pipe and cable locating activity to an actual geophysics application.

Per Eric Zinn, A letter from William Owen should be written from as a licensee to request clarification or the Board's position on the matter.

XII. Update on items from previous meeting(s)

- a. New Occupational Analysis status
- b. Update of Enforcement statistics
TAC requested additional information regarding the reasons cases were closed and average aging of cases. Also, requested update of statistics on citation orders.
- c. Examination Statistics from March 2012

XIII. Discussion of Possible Topics for Future G&G TAC Meetings.

Recommendations for updates to SMGB guidelines for preparing reports.

Review current Building Officials Pamphlet and make recommendations for geologic and geophysics supplement.

Future TAC meetings;

- (1) Wednesday November 7, 2012 (changed to November 28th)
- (2) February 5, 2013
- (3) May 7, 2013

XIII. Adjourn – 3:00 p.m.

Action Items from July 31, 2012 GeoTAC Meeting

At last Board Meeting (8/30) the Board approved the changes to definitions to CCR 3003(b) and 3003(e) and directed staff to begin the rule making process. BOARD STAFF

Find out date of Northern and Southern California universities annual meeting to discuss curriculums. Suggestion Chuck Kull and Shane Cummings go to meeting on Board's behalf. PATTY

Contact SMGB to: 1) change all references to the "Board for Professional Geologists and Geophysicists" to the "Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists"; 2) Change any reference to "Register" Geologist and Geophysicist license type to "Professional"; 3) TAC would like to resurrect note "44" pertaining to geophysical reports. PATTY

Bring up at next Board Meeting for inclusion on December Board Meeting Agenda for discussion:

1) Recommendation for language change;

7841. Qualifications for registration as a Geologist:

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relevant to geology; of which 24 units must be upper division classes or graduate courses.

2) TAC completed Work Plan

Erik Zinn

Anticipated date for completion of Occupational Analyses. PATTY

Updated enforcement and examination statistics. PATTY

When and where is December AGU Meeting. PATTY

Example of completed Travel Claim. PATTY

Scan and sent email of SMGB guidelines for preparing reports to TAC members. PATTY

Look at SMGB notes and make recommendations for updates to guidelines for preparing reports.
TAC MEMBERS

Copies of Current Building Officials Pamphlet. BOARD STAFF

Update “List of Courses for Professional Geologist Degrees” with a column for “course content”, and email to TAC members.